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The upheaval in Central America which now troubles the United States is due to causes of poverty and repression which have been responded to with "benign neglect," Sen. J. James Exon says.

The United States needs to help Latin Americans resolve their problems of poverty rather than conduct a secret CIA war against a revolutionary government in Nicaragua.

"We have given our neighbors benign neglect for a long, long time," Exon told students at the University of Nebraska Monday.

"We need to let the Central and South Americans settle their problems, with our help if necessary."